

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**Date: Cari Boyce
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ACTIVATES NATIONAL GUARD IN ADVANCE OF JEANNE

***Plans briefing for tomorrow on state's preparations at 11:00 a.m. ***

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today activated the North Carolina National Guard in advance of Tropical Storm Jeanne's anticipated visit to the state. North Carolina is expected to begin feeling the effects of the storm, including rain, wind and the possibility of tornados, beginning on Monday evening and into Tuesday. The State Emergency Response Team (SERT) has been in contact with local emergency management officials throughout the weekend to monitor the storm's progress and will begin full activation on Monday morning at 8:00 a.m.

"I know that we are all 'storm weary,' but we must pay as close attention to Jeanne as we have to the past six storms," said Easley. "This storm's track seems to change with every forecast so it is even more critical that citizens stay tuned to local weather reports and heed the advice of their local officials."

Easley activated 240 North Carolina National Guard personnel for duty effective at 8 a.m. on Monday. There will be vehicles and personnel throughout the state with a concentration on the central part of the state. Ten generator teams will be staged in Stanly County and the warehouse will be manned in that location. Resources will be shifted as the storm's track becomes more certain.

Easley is also planning a media briefing for tomorrow, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 at 11:00 a.m. in the Governor's Press Conference Room in the Administration Building (116 W. Jones Street). UNC-TV, as a service to the state, will provide pool footage. Coordinates will be provided in advance of the briefing.

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